

BLUE RIDGE HIGH

2151 Fewes Chapel Road
Greer, SC 29651

GRADES 9-12 High School

ENROLLMENT 1,041 Students

PRINCIPAL Kenneth G. Southerlin 864-895-0130

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher 864-241-3456

BOARD CHAIR Tommie Reece 864-271-3619

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
15	7	0	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

EXCELLENT

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

YES

This school met 15 out of 15 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Good	Below Average	N/A
2002	Good	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2003	Excellent	Excellent	No
2004	Excellent	Excellent	Yes

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Passed 2 subtests	79.5	N/A	N/A	83.4	N/A	N/A
Passed 1 subtest	11.0	N/A	N/A	9.6	N/A	N/A
Passed no subtests	9.5	N/A	N/A	7.8	N/A	N/A

EXIT EXAM PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2004

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	98.3%	96.8%

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	13.7	23.2
Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement	13.7	24.2
Seniors who met the grade point average	60.4	55.7

*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

GRADUATION RATE

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	195	357
Number of Diplomas	162	284
Rate	83.1%	80.7%

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2004		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarship		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	178	98.3	197	13.7	195	83.1	YES
Gender							
Male	78	97.4	86	11.6	94	80.9	N/A
Female	100	99.0	111	15.3	101	85.1	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	167	98.2	183	14.8	184	82.1	N/A
African-American	9	100.0	11	0.0	9	100.0	
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	2	I/S	3	I/S	2	I/S	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
Non disabled	167	98.2	181	14.9	177	87.0	N/A
Disabilities other than speech	11	100.0	16	0.0	18	44.4	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Non-migrant	178	98.3	197	13.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	178	98.3	197	13.7	195	83.1	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	27	96.3	33	9.1	37	75.7	N/A
Full-pay meals	151	98.7	164	14.6	158	84.8	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 33.3%									
All Students	274	99.6	11.7	27.8	33.8	26.7	68.0	YES	YES
Gender									
Male	126	99.2	14.8	27.0	36.1	22.1	65.6	N/A	N/A
Female	148	100.0	9.0	28.5	31.9	30.6	70.1	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	257	99.6	12.0	25.7	34.5	27.7	69.1	YES	YES
African-American	13	100.0	7.7	61.5	15.4	15.4	53.8	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	233	100.0	5.7	24.7	38.3	31.3	77.1	N/A	N/A
Disabled	41	97.6	46.2	46.2	7.7	N/A	15.4	I/S	YES
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	274	99.6	11.7	27.8	33.8	26.7	68.0	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	274	99.6	11.7	27.8	33.8	26.7	68.0	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	54	100.0	15.4	40.4	34.6	9.6	57.7	YES	YES
Full-pay meals	220	99.5	10.7	24.8	33.6	30.8	70.6	N/A	N/A
Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 30.0%									
All Students	274	99.3	17.4	35.5	29.4	17.7	58.1	YES	YES
Gender									
Male	126	99.2	22.1	27.0	30.3	20.5	61.5	N/A	N/A
Female	148	99.3	13.3	42.7	28.7	15.4	55.2	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	257	99.2	16.9	34.7	29.4	19.0	59.7	YES	YES
African-American	13	100.0	30.8	53.8	15.4	N/A	15.4	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	233	99.6	10.6	36.7	32.3	20.4	64.2	N/A	N/A
Disabled	41	97.6	56.4	28.2	12.8	2.6	23.1	I/S	YES
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	274	99.3	17.4	35.5	29.4	17.7	58.1	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	274	99.3	17.4	35.5	29.4	17.7	58.1	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	54	100.0	28.8	36.5	26.9	7.7	48.1	YES	YES
Full-pay meals	220	99.1	14.6	35.2	30.0	20.2	60.6	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 1,041)				
Retention rate	9.0%	Up from 8.0%	7.9%	9.1%
Attendance rate	95.2%	No change	96.0%	96.0%
Eligible for gifted and talented	14.1%	Up from 12.3%	8.0%	5.8%
With disabilities other than speech	13.7%	Up from 12.7%	10.9%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	7.3%	Down from 8.1%	8.3%	9.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Up from 0.3%	2.9%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	11.1%	Down from 14.8%	17.8%	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	57.8%		63.7%	53.8%
Annual dropout rate	1.5%	Down from 2.2%	3.6%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	5.8%	Up from 3.3%	4.3%	3.6%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	640	Up from 508	892	466
Students participating in worked-based experiences	1.9%	Up from 1.6%	18.1%	25.7%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	79.7%	Up from 78.7%	76.8%	77.7%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	No change	100.0%	99.3%
Teachers (n= 52)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	59.6%	Up from 55.4%	57.4%	52.0%
Continuing contract teachers	94.2%	Up from 89.3%	87.8%	82.1%
Highly qualified teachers**	90.2%	N/A	89.7%	89.5%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.0%		6.6%	8.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	93.6%	Up from 88.5%	87.6%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	96.2%	Down from 99.0%	95.8%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$44,344	Up 4.3%	\$41,382	\$41,060
Prof. development days/teacher	8.7 days	Up from 6.2 days	9.8 days	10.6 days
School				
Principal's years at school	27.0	Up from 26.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	13.1 to 1	N/R	28.2 to 1	26.4 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.4%	Down from 93.6%	90.6%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,302	Up 4.7%	\$5,577	\$6,310
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	59.2%	Up from 58.3%	58.9%	57.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	67.4%	Down from 70.9%	88.0%	89.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	N/A	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	93.2%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	93.7%	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	No

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Blue Ridge High School Improvement Council evaluated school programs and school performance during the 2003-2004 school year. The mission of the school is to offer each student interdisciplinary experiences that develop the student's intellectual, social, physical, creative and technological potential in a safe environment.

Improvement strategies have been developed and are on-going. These efforts include a revised SAT Improvement Plan, an After School tutorial program and a rigorous academic program with broad course offerings. Eighty-three percent of the 2004 graduation class enrolled in either a two-year or four-year college and obtained more than 3.6 million dollars in scholarships.

In addition to a strong academic program, a very successful Band, Chorus, Orchestra and Drama program has been established. The Blue Ridge Marching Band has back-to-back State Championships. The Honors Concert Choir won first place in the state at The State Choral Festival.

Blue Ridge High School athletic programs are very competitive. The South Carolina High School League ranked Blue Ridge High in the top ten in the state in all classifications according to their system of rating success in all athletic programs.

Character Building is a vital on-going part of all school programs. Blue Ridge High School took first place in the Character Building Competition sponsored by Regions Bank.

A comprehensive curriculum is offered. An unusually strong area is foreign language with four languages and four levels of each.

Blue Ridge continues to foster a climate where all students can succeed in an advocating, nurturing and positive climate.

Students, parents and staff continue to feel good about their school and continue to seek ways for improvement.

Phyllis A. Gosnell, SIC Chair
Kenneth G. Southerlin, Principal

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	21	133	30
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	72.5%	63.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	82.6%	58.6%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	76.2%	85.6%	57.1%

*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade 11, only the highest grade was included.